

# South Dakota LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

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News Release

June 23, 2000

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## ***MEAT PRODUCTION UP FROM LAST YEAR***

**SIOUX FALLS, June 23, 2000** -- Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 79.2 million pounds during May. This was up 17 percent from last month and up 12 percent from one year ago, according to USDA's South Dakota Ag Statistics Service. For May, beef, pork, and sheep and lamb production were up from one year ago.

Commercial hog slaughter for South Dakota totaled 315,800 head during May compared to 282,700 head last year. Average live weight was 259 pounds, which was down 4 pounds from 1999. Federally inspected slaughter totaled 314,600 head, which was comprised of 14,600 sows, and 300,000 barrows and gilts.

Commercial cattle slaughter for South Dakota totaled 24,800 head during May compared to 22,600 head last year. Average live weight was 1,418 pounds, which was up 53 pounds from 1999. Federally inspected slaughter totaled 22,700 head, which was comprised of 3,600 steers, 1,200 heifers, 13,900 cows, and 4,000 bulls.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 1,500 head during May compared to 1,200 head last year. Average live weight was 118 pounds, which was down 1 pound from last year. Federally inspected slaughter totaled 1,400 head of lambs and yearlings.

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